II. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

 (Currently Amended) A method for assigning a device identifier to a device, the method comprising:

receiving a request for the device identifier at a server;

obtaining the device identifier, the device identifier being unique from device identifiers of other devices of the server and not drawn from a pre-existing pool;

marking a status of the device identifier as pending;

sending the device identifier to the device;

marking the status of the device identifier as in use after receiving an acknowledgment from the device; and

sending a confirmation to the device after the acknowledgment is received,

wherein the device is a wireless device that does not have a readily accessible device identifier or other communications related information and for which a network address, mobile phone number or host name cannot be used as the device identifier.

10/634,261 Page 2 of 11

- (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 receiving a second acknowledgment from the device; and
 sending a second confirmation to the device.
- 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising managing a set of device entries at the server, wherein each of the set of device entries includes a device identifier, a status, and correlation data, and wherein the request includes correlation data for the device.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the correlation data includes a device type that is not the manufacturer and user data.
- 5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein each of the set of device entries further includes a timestamp, the method further comprising setting the timestamp when the status is marked as pending.
- 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the obtaining step includes:

providing correlation data at the server;

generating at least one device identifier based on the correlation data before the request is received:

marking the status of the generated at least one identifier as unused; and locating one of the at least one device identifier having a status marked as unused after

the request is received using the correlation data for the at least one device identifier and

10/634,261 Page 3 of 11

correlation data in the request.

- 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the obtaining step includes generating a device identifier after receiving the request using correlation data in the request.
- 8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising marking the status of the device identifier as unused if the acknowledgment is not received after a time out period.
- 9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

reusing the device identifier for another request received from another device after a time out period has clapsed; and

sending a rejection to the device if the acknowledgment is received after the time out period has clapsed.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of obtaining a device identifier for a device, the method comprising:

sending a request for the device identifier to a server, the device identifier being unique from device identifiers of other devices of the server;

sending an acknowledgment to the server after receiving the device identifier from the server; and

using the device identifier after receiving a confirmation from the server,
wherein the device is a wireless device that does not have a readily accessible device

10/634,261 Page 4 of 11

identifier or other communications related information and for which a network address or host name cannot be used as the device identifier.

- 11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein a timestamp is also received from the server, and wherein the acknowledgment includes the device identifier and the timestamp.
- 12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the request includes correlation data.
- 13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the correlation data includes a device type that is not the manufacturer for the device and user data for a user of the device.
- 14. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising sending a second acknowledgment to the server if the confirmation has not been received after a time out period.
- 15. (Currently Amended) A system for assigning a device identifier to a device, the system comprising:

an assignment system for managing an assignment of the device identifier at a server, wherein the assignment system obtains the device identifier in response to a request, the device identifier being unique from device identifiers of other devices of the server, marks a status of the device identifier as pending, and marks the status of the device identifier as in use in response to an acknowledgment of the device identifier from the device; and

a server communication system for sending the device identifier to the device, sending a

10/634,261 Page 5 of 11

confirmation to the device after the acknowledgment is received, and for receiving the request and the acknowledgment from the device,

wherein the device is a wireless device that does not have a readily accessible device identifier or other communications related information and for which a network address or host name cannot be used as the device identifier.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15, further comprising:

a request system for obtaining the device identifier from the server, wherein the request system generates the request and the acknowledgment;

a device communication system for sending the request and the acknowledgment to the server, and for receiving the device identifier and the confirmation from the server; and an identifier system that uses the device identifier after the confirmation is received.

17. (Original) The system of claim 15, further comprising:

a management system for managing a set of device entries, wherein each of the set of device entries includes a unique device identifier, a status, and correlation data, wherein the request includes correlation data for the device; and

a comparison system for obtaining one of the set of device entries based on correlation data for the device.

18. (Currently Amended) A program product stored on a recordable medium for assigning device identifiers, which when executed comprises:

10/634,261 Page 6 of 11

program code for receiving a request for the device identifier at a server;

program code for obtaining the device identifier, the device identifier being unique from device identifiers of other devices of the server;

program code for marking a status of the device identifier as pending;

program code for sending the device identifier to the device:

program code for marking the status of the device identifier as in use after receiving an acknowledgment from the device; and

program code for sending a confirmation to the device after the acknowledgment is $\label{eq:confirmation} \text{received}_{\underline{a}}$

wherein the device is a wireless device that does not have a readily accessible device identifier or other communications related information and for which a network address or host name cannot be used as the device identifier.

19. (Original) The program product of claim 18, further comprising:

program code for sending the request to the server;

program code for sending the acknowledgment to the server after receiving the device identifier from the server; and

program code for using the device identifier after receiving the confirmation from the server.

20. (Original) The program product of claim 18, further comprising:

program code for reusing the device identifier for another request received from another

10/634,261 Page 7 of 11

device after a time out period has elapsed; and

program code for sending a rejection to the device if the acknowledgment is received after the time out period has elapsed.